Advice note for a material change inspection of an independent school seeking to open or change existing boarding or residential provision – welfare only

School name
Exeter Mathematics school

DfE registration number
N/K

Unique reference number (URN)
1698

Inspection dates
19 August 2014

Lead inspector:
Christina Maddison
The Office for Standards in Education, Children’s Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children’s services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at www.ofsted.gov.uk/publications/100169.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.ofsted.gov.uk

No. 100169
© Crown copyright 2013
Information about the inspection

This inspection of boarding/residential provision was conducted by Ofsted at the request of the registration authority for independent schools. It was carried out under the Children Act 1989, as amended by the Care Standards Act 2000, having regard to the national minimum standards for Accommodation of Students under Eighteen by Further Education Colleges. The standards for Further Education Colleges were used, rather than the standards for Boarding Schools, as all the students accommodated are aged 16 or over.

The school is situated in Exeter city centre. The boarding provision for the school is located in two attached town houses owned by the University of Exeter situated approximately a twenty minute walk from the school. Extra-curricular activities are available at Exeter College of Further Education campus. The school offers weekly term time boarding for up to 11 students aged 16-18 who are gifted mathematicians.

Purpose of the inspection

To ensure the school meets the national minimum standards for the accommodation of students under eighteen by Further Education colleges.

Advice to the Department for Education

The inspection included a tour of the school and boarding provision, discussion with the head teacher, scrutiny of policies and procedures, including safeguarding procedures, risk assessments, statement of boarding principles and practice, staff recruitment files, statement of boarding principles and practice and the students guide to boarding.

The boarding provision of the school is located within walking distance of the school and is operated by the University of Exeter. Health and safety topics such as gas and electrical systems checks and fire safety procedures are managed by the University and are robust. Male and female students are separated by the staff office/sleeping in room and have separate washing/toilet facilities. Accommodation is suitably lit and heated and is well maintained. All students have their own bedroom.

Clear expectations of behaviour are issued to students in a comprehensive students guide. Suitable arrangements are in place to safeguard students including a comprehensive safeguarding policy and procedure and appropriate staff training.

Staff recruitment policies and procedures are robust and evidence only suitable persons are employed in the boarding provision. Suitable numbers of appropriately trained staff are employed in the boarding provision and are backed up by a comprehensive management structure and a school that offers comprehensive pastoral care for boarders.
Compliance with the national minimum standards for the Accommodation of Students under Eighteen by Further education Colleges.

The school is likely to meet all national minimum standards.

**Recommendation**

Is the material change recommended?

**YES**

For number of boarders: 11